

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

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Please amend Figs. 1A and 1B to include the legends
"Prior Art".

Attachments:

Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet showing Changes

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 remain in the application with claims 1 and 3 having been amended hereby and claims 4 and 5 having been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the objection to the Declaration.

Submitted herewith is a new Declaration duly executed by the inventor.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the objection to Figs. 1A and 1B.

Submitted herewith is a corrected Fig. 1A and 1B bearing the legend "Prior Art".

The cancellation of claims 4 and 5 renders moot the rejection thereof under 35 USC 101.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 102(e), as being anticipated by Kurth.

In the information processing apparatus and method of the present invention, a feature is the determination of priority when it comes to make a connection to the system bus. Time limits are assigned to the encoders and decoders of the information processing apparatus and at the time a request signal is generated the time limits are checked to see whether they are within the acceptable range and such checking is

utilized to determine the priority for connection to the bus. As shown in Fig. 7, the priority determination system determines the priority of the bus acquisitions by the first result judging whether or not the request signal is received from the encoder or from the decoder and the second result judging whether or not this request signal is received from other modules based on the first result.

The claims have been amended hereby to emphasize the above-noted feature of the present invention.

Kurth relates to a dynamic request priority arbitration system in which the priority assigned to the various agents can dynamically change over time so as to not starve one or the other of the agents from access to the resource.

Kurth is silent concerning the feature of the present invention wherein the priority determination means determines the priority of the bus acquisition by the first result judging whether or not the request signal is received from the encoder or the decoder and the second result judging whether or not the request signals received from other modules based on the first result, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the

rejection of the claims under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Nunziata et al.

Nunziata et al. relates to a bus priority switching system in which the priorities can be dynamically changed based upon a change in system conditions.

Nunziata et al. is completely silent concerning the features of the present invention wherein the priority determination means determines the priority of bus acquisition by the first result judging whether or not the request signal is received from the encoder or from the decoder and the second result judging whether or not the request signal is received from the other modules based on the first result, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1 and 3 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Hewitt et al.

Hewitt et al. relates to a dynamic bus arbiter system in which the bus arbiter includes a request detection unit for detecting bus request signals of a plurality of bus masters and a grant generator for generating corresponding grant signals to grant ownership of the bus, along with a set of counters, wherein a separate counter corresponds to each bus master and each counter generates a latency signal

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indicating lapse of time since the peripheral had requested ownership of the bus.

Hewitt et al. is silent concerning the feature of the present invention wherein the priority determination means determines the priority of bus acquisition by the first result judging whether or not the request signal is received from the encoder or from the decoder and a second result judging whether or not the request signal is received from other modules based on the first result, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Hewitt et al. in view of Tran.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 which for the reasons set forth hereinabove is thought to be patentably distinct over the cited reference and, for at least those very same reasons, claim 2 is also submitted to be patentably distinct thereover.

Tran is cited for its disclosure of round-robin type arbiters. Nevertheless, Tran fails to cure the deficiency of Hewitt et al. concerning the feature of the present invention described above.

The cancellation of claims 4 and 5 renders moot the rejection thereof under 35 USC 103.


Accordingly, in view of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully

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submitted that an information processing apparatus, as taught
by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims,
is neither shown nor suggested in the cited references, alone
or in combination.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed
and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention, as
recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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JHM:tb

FIG. 1A (Prior Art)

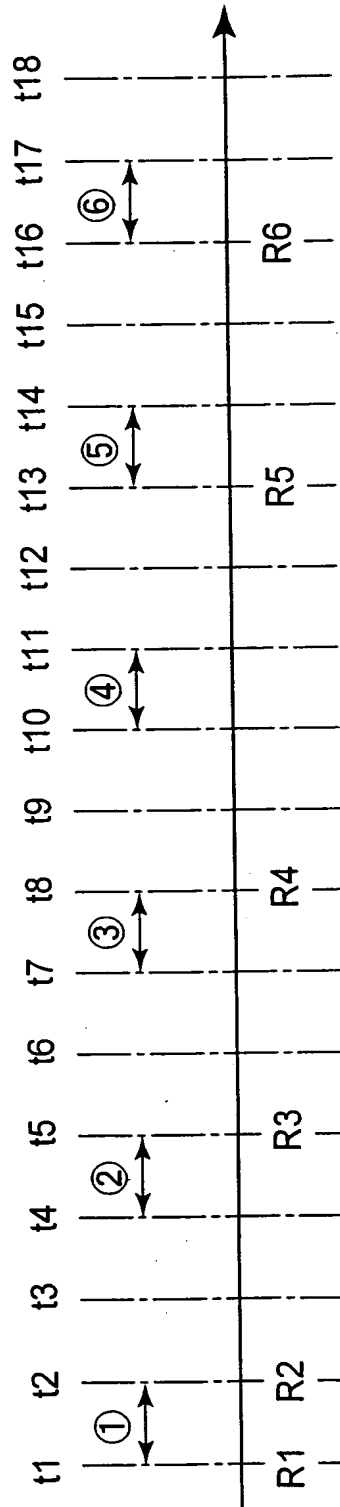


FIG. 1B (Prior Art)

